With Dr. A. R. Wallace's Compts

DSI

The Dell, Grays, Essex.
May 31st. 1874

Dear Mr. Carruthers

If you can not
tell me yourself perhaps you can
tell me who can give me
information as to the exact
localities of *Orchis militaris* &
O. simia, said to grow plentifully
on the north bank of the Thames
between *Reading* & *Goring*. I
am going here a good many
hardy Orchises and would be
added these to my collection, but
as it is a long way to go I
do not like to go alone without

information from some one who has local knowledge. If any one who knows the locality would join me in an excursion this next week I should be glad.

Yours very faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace.

DSI

26 March 1880

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th Inst. enclosing Cheque for £50 ~~~~~ Dividend ~ Bonus due to me on the 1st day.

Yours obediently,

Alfred R. Wallace.

W. B. HODGE, ESQ.,
Secretary,
General Reversionary and Investment Company,
5, WHITEHALL.

ISD

Frith Hill, Godalming
Jan.y 17th. 1884

Dear Sir

Our Asst. Sec. Mr. Evans has sent me your letter & says he has written to you. He has probably given you the information you wish for.

I know of no special point of importance to call your attention to, except perhaps a Rev. Stopford Brookes' sermon about a month ago (reported in the papers) in which he showed from personal observation how the London slums are recruited & their evils intensified, by countrymen driven away by Landlordism.

Wishing you a good audience and a successful meeting

Yours faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace

DSI

17. 1. 84

A R Wallace

Frith Hill, Godalming.
Oct. 30th. 1884

Dear

My dear Sir

Many thanks for your remarks on my paper. I am always glad to know how my views strike others, as it is so difficult for a writer on these questions to put himself in the mental attitude of those who have hitherto held different views, and even if he does not agree with the objections he learns where more full discussion is needed.

In the case from your remarks objection there seems to me to be a little misconception. "Peasant-farms which occupy a mere whole time" - about which you are doubtful, form no part of my present proposal except incidentally. What I have in my paper maintained that there is no practical disagreement about, is, that it is an enormous benefit for every

labourer to have an acre of land
(a two a more in exceptional cases)
to occupy his own time, & compulsorily
idle time. All his argument &
my paper goes to this point only.
I refer to the use value of cottage
farms as a supplementary matter
importance;
of great, but not of the actual importance
of the other.

I did not go into the question of
peasant farms because it would
have doubled the length of my
paper, and I have already given
a full summary of the facts in
their favour in my little book on
"Land Nationalisation". I will however
make a few remarks on your
objections.

As to why the yeomen disappeared there is much difference of opinion. I don't profess to know, because I do not consider it a point of much importance, but I have always considered that the chief cause was the enormous growth of wealth by manufactures & Commerce & the corresponding rise in value of land, with the great demand for land of the wealthy being a temptation to the yeomen to sell their farms which they could not resist. They were absorbed into great estates, when was no corresponding great creation of small estates, owing to the great demand for land by great landowners, not necessarily because the yeomen could not live on their farms.

Again the whole conditions have now

changed. Large tenant farms in England & large stock farms in the Highlands, which were all the rage 50 to 100 years ago, no longer pay. All I ask for, is, that small farms may be allowed to grow up again naturally. If they do not pay they will not arise. — But that does not affect the land & the labourer question.

Again as to the flow from the country to the towns having always existed. I quite admit it. All I say in my paper is, that the diminution of the population of whole Counties was first noticed 20 years ago. Previous to the last 50 & 60 years the surplus rural population went mostly to increase the country towns & large villages; but for the last 30 years it has gone mostly to great manufacturing towns & cities.

DSI

The guide principle I most strongly urge is, that no man or body of men should be allowed to determine the natural flow of population on the surface of our country, or interpose any barriers to the cultivation of the land in any way individuals find best. To all schemes for establishing peasant farms I am as strongly opposed as any one. I only ask for them to be allowed freely to grow, - which they will only do if they fulfil a need and are profitable, and till they are allowed to grow no one can possibly

say they will not succeed.

Never, in modern times, have men been allowed any real freedom in the use of their native soil, and it is impossible to argue from what has occurred without this free development as to what will occur under it.

I do not think you can have read (recently) the Chap. on "Occupying Ownership" in my Land Nationalisation, or would hardly say that a case has not been made out in favour of

small farms, at the present day.

I believe myself that with free growth of population over the land, under such conditions I have security as I propose, a market would be created in every district, and moreover that home industries, either purely domestic or in small cooperative factories would naturally spring up as a means of utilising the savings and spare labour of the rural populations. Under present conditions no such growth is possible, - and we have huge & hideous manufacturing

towns on the one hand — a
desert half cultivated country
on the other.

Believe me
Yours very faithfully
Alfred R. Wallace

Rev. Wm. Cunningham

Frith Hill. Godalming.
June 3rd. 1888

Dear Mr. Soper

I return the proof of "Report" with a few corrections of my Address, & an additional bit of Mss. to make clear what I meant to say in reply- Please see that they are set up, & corrected.

Yours very faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace-

DSI

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

POST CARD—GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

(GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE)

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

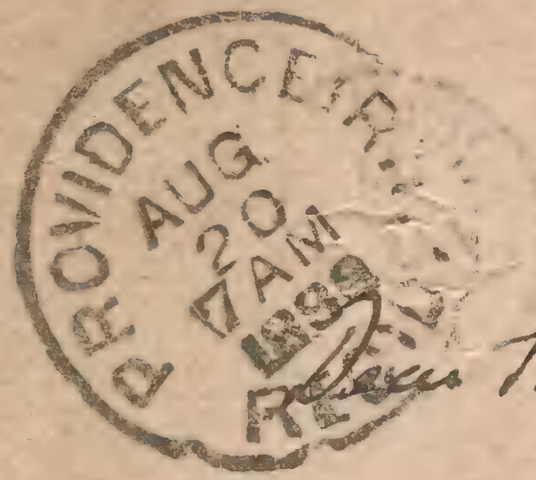


Henry Howard Esq.

Providence, R. I.

U. S. A.

DSI



Parkstone, Dorset, England.
August 8th. 1889

Rev. Sir.

Thank you for sending me the careful review of my book, in the Providence "Sunday Journal", and also for your kind expressions towards myself.

Yours faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace

Parkstone, Dorset.
Sept^r. 16th. 1890

D. A. Burnstead Esq.

Dear Sir

I now bank with the Wilts and Dorset Banking Company Limited, Poole Branch, and shall be glad if you will in future send my dividends & the Gen. Reversionary & Investment Company Crossed to that Bank.

Yours faithfully
Alfred R. Wallace

A.R. Wallace

=

16 Sept. 1890

R 17

a

cheques by post to be crossed
Wilts & Dorset Bank Poole

P. O. B.
72

DSI

Parkstone, Dorset.
Nov. 22nd. 1891

Rec. 26. 1891

My dear Mrs. Besant

As one who admires your boldness, your honesty, and the excellent work you have done for humanity, I take the liberty of addressing you on a very important subject — that of the value of the philosophy you have recently adopted. I am not going to argue at all as the question of Theosophy, but merely to urge upon you — before finally and irrevocably committing yourself to it as founded in truth — the fact of nature, — to read a book which seems to me

throw far more light on the
nature of the universe & of man,
and to offer a surer foundation
for morals & religion, than
are to found on the purely
speculative teachings of the
Theosophists. The author of this
work was, like yourself, an
agnostic, Being a man of
powerful intellect and great
literary ability he determined
to see if all the actual knowledge
now attained & organised by
through the sciences of morphology
Embryology & physiology, could
lead, by systematic reasoning on
the facts, to any rational conception

of the nature & origin of life &
of the material universe, - & of
the mental & moral nature
of man. After devoting many
years to the study he has pub-
lished results in two volumes, - the
first - "Whence comes Man" - the
2nd. - "Why does Man Exist." - If
my judgment is worth anything
this 2nd. work is one of the most
remarkable that has yet appeared,
since, by a train of logical &
acute reasoning, on facts, it
leads to a conception of the nature
of man & God which offers a
sound foundation for morality
and religion, and that much

light upon, if it does not wholly
solve, some of the most difficult
problems of philosophy.

Now, as I know that you seek
after truth + truth only, and are
moreover a student who can
read, and assimilate what
you read, I write to ask you
whether you will read carefully
and studiously Mr. Bell's book.
If so I will ask him to send
you a copy, which I am sure
he will be most pleased to
do. Having read it I ask
you to compare the two methods
of arriving at some knowledge
of man and the universe, —
(1) that of Mr. Bell, which is,

DSI

reason, carefully, cautiously, but unflinchingly on the marvellous fact as to life revealed by modern science; and, in every case boldly to follow out our reasonings & their legitimate conclusions; — or (2) that if the Theosophists, such is to accept the dicta of various old teachers, who were absolutely ignorant of that exact knowledge of nature laboriously attained by modern research, and the truth of whose dogmas ~~facts~~ we have no possible means of verifying. Or the

a method that has failed again and again in the history of science.

one hand we can test the facts, we can follow the arguments, and can adopt the conclusion just so far as it seems to be justified. On the other hand we have doctrines given us whose truth we have no means whatever of testing either as to fact or reasoning, — but ~~B~~ solely by their supposed power of explaining a few of the phenomena of human nature and the amount of inherent probability they may have for each of us — I fear, I am sure will admit, that we shall be

[illegible]able to judge of that inherent probability if we make ourselves first acquainted with what can be learnt from the facts of our organisation & our mental faculties, by means of those faculties; and I therefore on this ground hope that you will at least read this one book.

It seems to me that the whole history of human progress warns us against accepting beliefs on authority instead of on fact and founding them reasoning. The acceptance of the Aristotelian philosophy barred the way to all advance in knowledge for more than a thousand years.

The dogmas of St. Paul & St. John
accepted as truths,
accepted by theologians & have
a longer period blinded the
human intellect. The metaphysicians
have argued & spun their theories
in vain from the earliest epoch
to this day. Should we not
therefore beware of again accepting
theories or beliefs the rational
ground for which we can not
ourselves test and examine?
Only when we have exhausted the
knowledge gained by patient study
of nature, and all that is to be
derived from it, should we accept
teachings that claim to be from higher
minds than ours; & only then so far as
they are consistent with what we have
learnt by more legitimate modes of
study. Believe me

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace

DSI

B.

Parkstone, Dorset.
March 31st. 1892

Dear Mrs. Besant

I could very easily answer the questions you send but I do not see what purpose it would serve. Opinions are of no value without stating the evidence on which they are founded. Again; the questions seem altogether unguided, as none of them touch on the special teaching of Theosophy. Yet further, as few Spiritualists see Lucifer that the discussion could not reach them. It seems to me that to serve any useful purpose the questions should be so put as

to bring out the crucial difference
between Spiritualists & Theosophists
The evidence, for each special
doctrine should be summarized
in the answers
And, lastly, arrangements should
be made to have the whole
discussion published in Light
as well as in ~~X~~ Lucifer.

Yours very faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace -

DSI

936

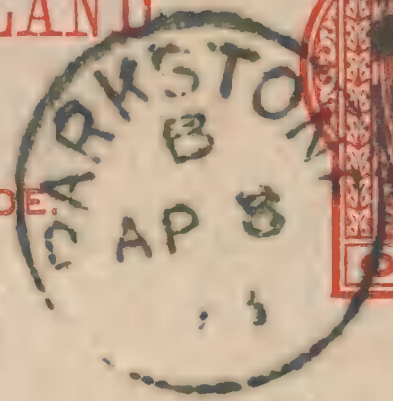
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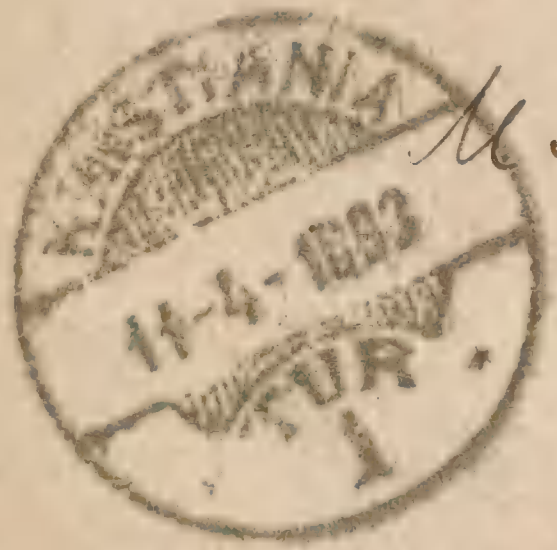
POST CARD—GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

(GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE)

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.







M. Olaf Halvorsen
Nordal Brunsgade, 6.
Christiania
Norway.

DS

Dear Sir

I myself find no satisfaction in Theosophy; and its elaborate and complex theory of man and of the universe seem to me very improbable and unsatisfactory. It is wholly theoretical, and no part of it can be brought to the test of experiment or observation. Much of it is Spiritualism under other names, but where it goes beyond I see nothing but the speculations of the old Indian philosophers full of the fanciful numerical arrangements and vast cosmic cycles in which they delighted.

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace

Parkstone, Dorset.
August 14th. 1897

My dear Swinton

I have sent the stone axe fragment to Mus. Shore with a note. I could get no definite opinion about it either from Australia or here, except that, being ground smooth, exactly like native axes now used, it cannot be so old as the gold drift. I think I told you this before (I do not agree with this.)

I have written to Mrs. Glendinning about the photos. sent me. Without details of precautions &c. they are valueless as they have all the characters of frauds, & it is a pity

that he let any copies go out of his possession without the exact mode of taking them written or printed on back of each, with his name address. The figure is evidently made up, the face being from a cast or statue, the holes for the pupils of the eyes being visible with a lens. The hair & drapery seem real. They are exactly like artists' lay-figures dressed up with a plaster bust for head, with a wig of real hair. Of course they does not in the least diminish the marvel, if no such image could get on the plate by normal means. The baby seems the portrait of a real baby — fleshly or spiritual.

I am glad to hear you are going

to build on your land at last.
It will be a good investment if
you do not want to occupy it, as
pretty houses in such a situation
are sure to let well. But when
built I expect Mrs. Swinton will
enjoy it.

I have had a letter from Dr.
Hertzka asking me to be a
Vice President of his Society. I shall
stipulate it is to be honorary.
I did not go to see H. V. Mills'
Colony because when at Ambleside
every fine day was occupied with
excursions, & it would have taken
a day & [illegible] and reach the place, & then
Mills' might not have been
there. Many places we would
have liked to have seen were
left unvisited from want of

time. My sister is I fear very ill. She has tumours on her neck & her doctor thinks they are very serious. A specialist is going to see them & I am waiting his report. She could probably not stand an operation.

With best wishes

Believe me
Yours very truely

Alfred R. Wallace

DSI

Parkstone, Dorset.
Jan.y 9th. 1894

D. Pidgeon Esq

My dear Sir

Thanks for your very interesting letter. Ever since I first took an interest in the subject of placers — now than thirty years ago — I have been looking for estimates of the quantity of sand in placer streams. But, as far as, the quantity in the Greenland ice-cap streams would be far more valuable, as that would be all due to erosion. Yet even that might aid one the full amount of erosion of the old Alpine ice sheets owing to a comparative deficiency of

grinding material, due to the
fine mountain peaks above the
ice. I wish you would write
to "Nature" giving all that part
from Potter referring to Greenland,
and the vast importance of its
mud-charged streams as an
actual measure of the erosion
due to an ice-sheet. The Brit.
Ass., Royal Geog. Societies,
between them, should arrange
to have these streams measured
tested for mud discharge in
a year. It would not cost
very much, & would give more
valuable information than many
more costly expeditions.

The only recent papers on the American Great Lakes was that of Prof. J. W. Spencer in Q. J. G. S. for 1890; but he was against ice-erosion. It was injudicious for Ramsay to claim those lakes as ice-eroded, though it seems to me certain that ice-erosion must have deepened them in parts.

Shall I return your letter for you to write for "Nature", or will you write afresh? What you say about Greenland will be a real contribution to the discussion.

Believe me
Yours very truly
Alfred R. Wallace

DSI

Parkstone, Dorset.
Feb. 12. 1898

Dear Sir,

My new book is not quite finished yet. It will be a volume of about 340 – 350 pp. of the same sized page & type as my "Darwinism". I hope to go to press with it before the end of this month.

I do not know whether Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co. propose to reprint it in America through their agents. If not I might make an arrangement with you; but perhaps you had better communicate with them on the subject. Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace.

DSI

Parkstone, Dorset.
March 22nd. 1901

Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson

Dear Sir

I write to ask if you will allow me to have copies of a few of the cuts in your Elementary Lessons in Electricity & Magnetism, & illustrate a chapter describing the main features of Electrical progress during the century for a new edition of my "Wonderful Century."

Those I wish to use are given on other side. If you have no objection I will

ask Macmillan to let me
have electros of them.

Your old pupil, William
G. Wallace, after 3 years
work + play in America, which
he really enjoyed, is now
at Newcastle-on-Tyne working
for one of the new American
London firms at Power
Installations.

I was very much pleased
some months since to find
that you, like myself, are
opposed to this horrible S. African
War. Believe me
Yours very truly Alfred R. Wallace

DSI

Illustrations from Thompsons Elementary Lessons in Electricity & Magnetism - Edition 1895.

Fig.	107	- page	182
"	67	"	109
"	68	"	110
"	71. }	"	112
"	72 }		
"	132	-	217
"	245	"	480
"	166	"	308

Alfred Russell Wallace
re
Use of Cuts for new
book.

Parkstone, Dorset.
March 28th. 1901

Dear Professor S. Thompson

Many thanks
for permission to use the cuts.
Everything you say about the
War & Chamberlain I agree
with. I have done the latter
I am in writing a few letters
& signing memorials &c. but
when men of political influence
like Mr. Courtney are not
listened to it seems hopeless.
The amazing statements made
astonish me! I read today that
Lord Salbourne said last night that
the terms of peace offered were

"the most generous ever offered
by victor to vanquished".
And his hearers deem to
release it!

The people deem war
mad! We must wait till
they come to their senses.

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace

DSI

Alfred R. Wallace

re

Boer War

Broadstone, Dorset

March 21st. 1903

J. B. Gilder Esq.

Dear Sir

Such a work as you suggest* is one of my lines, and the one which I could undertake.

I am however now writing a book of which much greater interest, & I will ask my Agent Mr. Curtis Brown to see you, if he has not already made arrangements for its publication in America.

Yours truly

Alfred R. Wallace

* Predictions of the Course of Scientific Discovery in the 20th Cent.

DSI

Spruce of Rolv who "sent"
Letters to Ka Tiscoting of
Ka "Detroit Free"

POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



D. A. Burnsted Esq.
Secretary G. R. and In. Coup.ys
26, Pall Mall
London. S.W.

C. R. Wallace
26 Mar. 1913
127
Please send the clerk to Mr Burnsted

DSI

Broadstone, Dorset.
March 26th. 1903

Dear Sir

Please cross my cheques in future Poole instead of Parkstone as I have removed my banking account to that Branch instead of Parkstone, for greater convenience.

Yours truly

Alfred R. Wallace

Broadstone, Wimborne
Jan^y. 10th. 1907

J. M. Jackson Esq.

Dear Sir

Thanks for your
good wishes & kind -
appreciation. I am glad
to say I am still in very
fair health.

Miss Chant, The Studio,
Parkstone, Dorset.
has the best & most recent
portraits of me, & will no
doubt send you specimens
if you write.

I am very much surprised

at your enquiry as to
any writing any Reminiscences.
In Oct. 1905, I published
2 vols. entitled "My Life" — &
I think from that date till
January & February last
every newspaper in the
kingdom, almost, had
some or other lengthy Reviews
of it. How you can have
missed seeing any of these
Reviews is very curious.
If you have a good
public Library in Croydon
no doubt you can get to

see the book.

Only in ~~that~~ this week, "Reader"

Jan^y. 12th. Sir A Conan Doyle

in a post card about the books

that have impressed him

most in the past year - names

4, and concludes - "These have

impressed me most, together

with Wallaces' autobiography".

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace.

DSI

Nov. 28th.
1908

Old Orchard,
Broadstone,
Wimborne.

William Strang Esq

Dear Sir

I have received
a letter from the Librarian
at Windsor Castle informing
me that you are commissioned
by the King to take a
portrait-drawing of myself
as a member of the Order
of Merit.

I presume you come

here for the sitting,
as it will be impossible
for me to come to
you, unless it were delayed
~~till~~ summer, on account
of my very delicate health.

Here I can be at your
orders at any time you
may appoint.

My station is Broadstone
Junction, from which I
am about half a mile off.

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace

DSi

Naturalist (1822-1913)

Dec. 2nd. 1908

Old Orchard,

Broadstone,

Wimborne.

Dear Sir

We shall be very glad to see you on Thursday Dec. 10th. to do your drawing and will give you a bed if you will put up with our very plain living & accommodation.

My daughter has a few little girls to teach & we have always dined at 1 p.m. & had a light supper at 7.30 to 8.0, but I dare say you can put up with that

Yours very truly

Alfred R Wallace

DSI

POST CA



Professor Eug. Warming

Copenhagen

Denmark.

180

(90+63)

Broadstone, Wimborne

Sept. 20th. 1910

Many thanks for the long and interesting paper you have sent me about the fires and underground plants of the Campos of Lagoa Santa. I have now just sent the Mss. of my book to the printer, & shall hope to be able to send you a copy before the end of the year.

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace